NEBRASKA **WEATHER & CROPS**

NEBRASKA CROP & LIVESTOCK REPORTING SERVICE

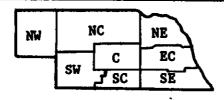
Week Ending 5-4-86

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Nebraska Department of Agriculture Division of Agr'l. Statistics Cooperative Extension Service Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources--UNL

CROPS (Cont.)

WEATHER

It was a mild week with scattered showers producing less than one inch of rain. Average temperatures ranged from one to six degrees above normal.

GENERAL

Nebraska crop producers in the eastern areas of the State remained behind schedule in row crop plantings due to wet soil conditions. Scattered showers were reported at midweek across the State. Warming temperatures occurred during the latter part of the week and over the weekend. Fieldwork activities consisted of corn planting, spraying, and planting of cover crops on set aside acres. Sorghum planting was just getting under-way. The number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.6.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 9% short, 60% adequate and 31% surplus. Subsoil moisture condition rated 77% adequate and 23% surplus. A year ago, topsoil moisture rated 4% short, 78% adequate and 18% surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 11% short, 76% adequate and 13% surplus.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 33% fair, 61% good and 6% excellent. Winter wheat development lagged behind last year and average, possibly reflecting effects of earlier frosts and low ground temperatures. Jointing of the wheat crop reached 15%, well behind 45% last year and the 30% 5-year average.

Oat planting progressed to 96% complete, compared to complete last year and 85% average.

 $\underline{\text{Corn}}$ planting advanced to 20% complete, compared to 10% last year and 10% average. Planting remains most advanced in the central and south central counties, while lagging behind in the northeast and east.

Alfalfa condition rated 2% poor, 44% fair, 50% good and 4% excellent. Pastures and alfalfa fields began greening with some winter kill reported. Anthracnose infections were observed in the northeast. Wild hay condition rated 2% poor, 36% fair, 58% good and 4% excellent.

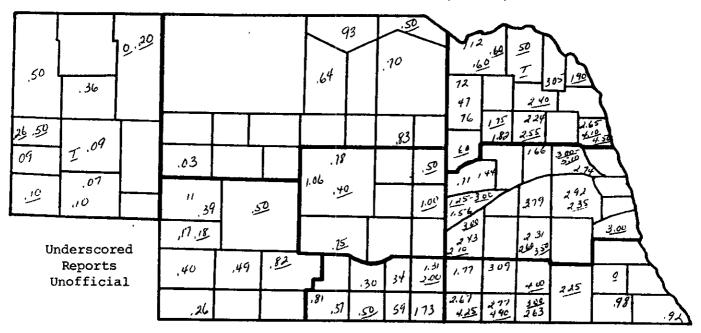
LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition rated mostly adequate. Muddy conditions caused problems in some lots. Producers began moving cattle out to spring pastures. major calving season moved nearer to finishing, with warmer temperatures helping early growth.

Precipitation, April 1 - May 2, 1986

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week Total since April 1 Normal since April 1	3.58	3.56	4.46	3.73	5.34	2.15	1 94	4 66

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1986



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 4, 1986

			Precipitation				
	Station	Extremes		16			
		Маж	Min	Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	
NW	Chadron	87	33	58		Ţ	
	Scottsbluff	86	32	57	+5	.08	
	Sidney	86	32	56		0	
IC	Ord	88	33	58		0	
	Valentine	93	28	55	+3	.06	
NE	Norfolk	83	37	58	+3	.21	
	Sioux City	84	36	57	+1	.80	
EN	Grand Island	83	37	59	+3	.07	
EC	Lincoln	82	38	59	+2	.34	
	Omaha	82	32	58	+1	.91	
SW	Imperial	90	37	60		0	
	North Platte	88	33	59	+6	Ť	

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

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